

Michigan State Agency Status Report #2 On Hurricane Katrina EMAC and Energy Emergency

Representing information as of 8:36 PM on 09/04/05

September 4, 2005

SITUATION OVERVIEW:

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina made landfall from the Gulf of Mexico as a Category 4 Hurricane with maximum sustained winds near 135 mph. The hurricane was very large with hurricane force winds extending 125 miles from the center. The storm had severe impacts on the Gulf states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida, as well as some inland states such as Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky, before finally dissipating.

Storm surge flooding, direct impacts from winds and rain, failed infrastructure including utilities, failed dike segments and resultant flooding has caused widespread displacement, loss of life, property, and services. Flooding is as much as 20 feet above normal tide levels, with runoff causing levels to worsen over several days, even after the hurricane had passed. Although flood levels are no longer worsening, public health and safety concerns have continued to increase.

The affected states are part of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and thus are able to request assistance from other states, including Michigan, that are a part of the compact. This compact, headed at the national level by NEMA direction, provides the most organized, responsible, and coordinated, and effective means for providing resources and assistance of all types to the affected states, and localities within them. EMAC was ratified during the second session of the 104th Congress and became Public Law 104-321, October 1996.

Individuals who wish to assist in disaster response and recovery activities, at this time, are advised to make a contribution in the form of a monetary donation. Financial assistance has been identified as the most effective, efficient, organized and appropriate type of assistance that can be provided at this time. Information about contributions can be found at the Michigan government web site at <http://www.michigan.gov/>, and at www.fema.gov.

Individuals and organizations are currently advised NOT to self-deploy to the areas affected by the disaster events. This is because such assistance needs to be organized to coordinate effectively with agencies and efforts that are already under way in those areas. Many of the response activities in and near the disaster areas require extensive training and health-related preparations. It is important that current efforts not be unduly diverted or distracted by efforts to accommodate any unauthorized or unrequested personnel who may not have not been sufficiently prepared, trained, and coordinated with existing response frameworks.

INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN MICHIGAN THAT WISH TO VOLUNTEER AND/OR GIVE SUPPLIES AND OTHER ASSISTANCE SHOULD CALL MICHIGAN'S "HURRICANE HOTLINE" AT 1-888-535-6136.

The State of Michigan has identified resources and types of assistance that can be provided to affected states through the EMAC, some of which are already being deployed to the requesting states. Michigan has also prepared, and continues to prepare, various resources to accommodate evacuees from the affected areas.

Two of the major activities being dealt with by State of Michigan departments on Sunday September 4, 2005 are related to meeting requests being made under the EMAC and planning for and preparing to receive evacuees. A number of EMAC requests have been fulfilled by Michigan while a number of others are in the process of being fulfilled. The State of Michigan has been placed on stand-by status for receiving evacuees but expects to start receiving evacuees later today or tomorrow. The Michigan Relocation Plan for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees has been developed in the State Emergency Operations Center and is ready to be implemented. The State of Michigan has identified housing for nearly 22,000 evacuees including Fort Custer (2,526) and Camp Grayling (6,500).

In addition, the significance of the Gulf of Mexico region to the energy sectors of the national economy has affected the supply and pricing of fuel throughout the country. Because of the vital need for maintaining an adequate supply of such resources, especially to support emergency response and recovery needs, Governor Jennifer Granholm has issued executive orders stemming from a declared state of energy emergency. These executive orders promote the availability and effective use of a continued supply of energy in Michigan.

STATE OF MICHIGAN ACTIONS:

Office of the Governor

Governor Jennifer Granholm has been personally leading activities to coordinate all departments of state government to identify and steer resources toward assisting affected areas, as needed, and to organize public, private, and nonprofit assistance and volunteer activities to support both the disaster areas and the needs of evacuees from those areas that will be housed in Michigan.

The Governor activated the State Emergency Operations Center on Friday September 2, 2005 at 8:30 am to coordinate information and activities among all state departments as well as other agencies that they work with. The Governor and her staff continue to work numerous issues associated with the hurricane relief efforts. Some efforts include preparing a state of emergency declaration for Michigan, requesting a federal declaration for Michigan from President Bush (to make available federal assistance for Michigan's Katrina response efforts), working with other state agencies to review and meet EMAC requests for which Michigan has the resources, and working with other states to coordinate the relocation of evacuees to Michigan.

Department of Agriculture

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Attorney General

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Civil Rights

- Preparing to provide sensitivity training to personnel who will interact with evacuees relocated to Michigan.

Department of Civil Service

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Community Health

- EMS resources were mobilized by FEMA through the American Ambulance Association.
- MDCH is operating the Michigan Hurricane Hotline with 8 operators from 7am – Midnight. The hotline is taking information about goods and services donations available for hurricane relief. Since 7:00am today, 401 calls have been received.
- Communicated with Oakland CHD Med. Director Carol Byrd regarding evacuees at the Ramada Inn, Southfield. Oakland CHD not require assistance with the situation. MDCH advised her to connect with 2N Medical Director, Dr. Nancy Finzel. The EPC will connect with the appropriate people to help facilitate the effort.
- Coordinated the mobilization of EMS resources by FEMA through the American Ambulance Association.
- Coordinated with Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital has been ready to send to Fort Custer to assist Region 5 triage (2 – Psychologist, 1 - Social Worker, 1 - Chief Safety Officer, 1 – RN).
- Worked with MSP planning team to identify DCH issues for Phase I and Phase II of evacuee arrival.

Department of Corrections

- Providing bedding for evacuees at Fort Custer. Bedding to arrive at Fort Custer AM on September 5, 2005.

Department of Education

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Environmental Quality

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of History, Arts and Libraries

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Human Services

Nothing to report at this time.

Department of Information Technology

- Resolved Groupwise issues for continued information flow for the SEOC and SHOC operations.

Department of Labor & Economic Growth

- Coordinating the availability of fire personnel and equipment for mobilization to Louisiana. Louisiana is seeking fire assistance through EMAC.

Department of Management and Budget

- The MDMB access control crew will process evacuees (badge issuance etc) in Battle Creek. The access control crew is on standby until confirmation of departure of evacuees by air.
- Coordinating with Departments of Corrections and Military and Veterans Affairs to resolve bedding needs for evacuees at Fort Custer.

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has been actively responding to EMAC requests from the affected states. Here are the latest EMAC deployments from the department:

- Military Police company to Mississippi
- Military Police company to Louisiana with battalion headquarters
- Water purification system with operators to Mississippi
- Two light armored vehicles with crew to Louisiana
- 1 EMEDS unit package to Louisiana with 7 personnel
- 2 Personnel to Mississippi to help set up a EMEDS unit
- 65 Personnel for construction engineering to rebuild runways, roads, and re-establishing telephone service and electricity
- 6 Soldiers with 3 trucks to accompany 111 Michigan law enforcement personnel for equipment transportation and set-up on scene
- Coordination of evacuee flights involving military aircraft

Department of Natural Resources

- The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is providing 50 conservation officers with 25 flat boats to be deployed to Louisiana under an EMAC request.

Department of State Police

The department's Emergency Management Division is providing the main coordination of all Michigan government activities, as well as acting as liaison between local, nonprofit, and private resources, and the governments in other states and at the federal level (FEMA). In addition to the coordination role the MSP has recently been involved in the following activities:

- Development of the Michigan Relocation Plan for Hurricane Katrina Evacuees. (EMD)
- Organization of an EMAC response to send 111 law enforcement officers from MSP, county and local police departments. The deployment of officers will depart for Louisiana on Monday September 5, 2005. (FSD)

Department of Transportation

The department has taken a number of actions to support hurricane relief efforts including the following:

- Providing waivers for oversized and overweight haulers responding to hurricane relief efforts. The waivers allow haulers to move during normally restricted hours.
- Contracted with an oil company to haul fuel for the MSP convoy going to Louisiana to meet an EMAC request.
- Hired a trucking company with flat bed trailers to haul 25 MDNR boats to Baton Rouge, LA.
- Tracked down message boards for an EMAC request that was later met by other states.
- Worked with Battle Creek Transit Authority to coordinate transportation of evacuees from the airport to Fort Custer. This issue was later resolved at the local level. School buses will be used.
- Working on development of a transportation assistance package for evacuees who get relocated to Michigan. MDOT is working with MDMB and Inter-city bus companies, transit agencies, Amtrak, and rental car companies. The package is being developed to meet the transportation needs of evacuees.

Department of Treasury

Nothing to report at this time.

The Office on Aging

Nothing to report at this time.